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CLASSIFICATION SECRETCOUNTRY East Germany

REPORT

TOPIC General Military Information

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25X1 EVALUATION [REDACTED] PLACE OBTAINED [REDACTED] 25X125X1 DATE OF CONTENT [REDACTED]25X1 DATE OBTAINED [REDACTED] DATE PREPARED 12 May 1954REFERENCES [REDACTED]PAGES 2 ENCLOSURES (NO. & TYPE) [REDACTED]25X1 REMARKS [REDACTED]

1. On 24 April 1954, Soviet troops in Prenzlau started moving out of the installations northwest and southeast of Berliner Strasse, heading for the summer camps. The transfer was still under way on 25 April. Small advance parties almost daily left after 15 April. 1

2. Between 6 and 7 p.m. on 7 April, 8 guns, presumably of 76.2 mm, 4 x 132-mm rocket launchers, about 18 trucks, 2 radio cars, 2 field kitchens, 4 jeeps and about 250 troops were seen leaving the Pionier Kaserne in Rathenow, heading toward Brandenburg via Banne. [REDACTED]

The rocket launchers were un-numbered. The vehicles returned to the installation at about 4:40 p.m. on 8 April. Another unit departed the installation toward Brandenburg via Premnitz during the night of 10 April. No details were learned. From 7:30 p.m. until 8:30 p.m. on 16 April, troops and vehicles entered the installation from the direction of Brandenburg, coming via Banne and Premnitz. They included 24 76.2-mm guns, 12 mortars, presumably of 160 mm, 8 rocket launchers, about 40 trucks with troops carrying full pack, 6 workshop trucks, 4 radio trucks, 8 field kitchens and 12 jeeps. The troops numbered about 600 to 700 men. Most of the troops were unloaded at the Infanterie Kaserne, while vehicles and guns were hauled to the Pionier Kaserne.

The rocket launchers had no numbers. Prior to 16 April, the Pionier Kaserne quartered an estimated 1,000 to 1,500 men. At 11:05 a.m. on 17 April, 8 x 160-mm mortars and about 35 trucks with troops carrying full pack left the installation toward Neue Schleuse.

3. At 6 p.m. on 20 April, 6 x 76-mm field guns, 4 other 76.2-mm guns, about 18 trucks, 1 jeep and about 120 soldiers wearing red-bordered black epaulets passed through Beelitz toward Michendorf - Potsdam. At 7:30 p.m. on 23 April, 18 trucks with pontoons, 5 other trucks, 1 jeep, 1 ambulance, 1 field kitchen and troops wearing black-bordered black epaulets passed through Beelitz from the direction of Lehnin and proceeded toward Trebbin. At 3 p.m. on 24 April, 24 trucks, 12 x 76.2-mm field guns, 1 jeep, 1 ambulance, 1 field kitchen and about 150 soldiers wearing red-bordered black epaulets passed through Zauchwitz toward Luckow from the direction of Michendorf.

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SECRET

-2-

4. On 21 April, a train of 49 flatcars and 2 boxcars was loaded with 45 pontoons, 2 motorboats and troops wearing black-bordered black epaulets at Brueckfeld railroad station in Magdeburg. The troops came from the Seeckt Kaserne and were shipped toward Biederitz. The train also included 2 sealed boxcars. Between 1 p.m. and 6 p.m. on 21 April, it seemed that another unit from the Seeckt Kaserne was loaded at Brueckfeld railroad station. 4

5. On 21 April, the Encke Kaserne was occupied to capacity, the Flak Kaserne was occupied by 1,200 troops wearing red-bordered black epaulets and the Herrenkrug Kaserne was occupied by 1,500 troops with red-bordered black epaulets. Prior to 21 April, the Nachrichten Kaserne quartered about 1,300 troops wearing red-bordered black epaulets and, after 22 April, the installation quartered about 1,000 troops with red-bordered black epaulets. On 24 April, the Anger Kaserne quartered about 1,200 troops with red-bordered black epaulets. Three BA-64s, 3 T-34s, and 4 T-34/85 tanks were identified in the billeting area. 5

6. Between 6 and 10 April, many roads in the area of the Schweinrich troop training grounds were damaged during the spring maneuvers and could no longer be used for civilian traffic. After 1 April, the bus companies suspended their service. The damages on the following roads were caused by track-laying vehicles:  
 Neuruppin - Rheinsberg  
 Zechlin - Schweinrich  
 Zuehlen - Zechow  
 Neu-Glienicke - Frankendorf  
 Stenberge - Frankendorf  
 Neu-Glienicke - Gadow  
 Neu-Glienicke - Basdorf  
 Bienenwalde - Zechow  
 Frankendorf - Raegelin  
 Neuruppin - Herzberg  
 Altruppin - Rheinsberg  
 The bridge near Molchow was destroyed. Outside the training area, 4,000 to 5,000 hectares of 2 to 5-year-old plantations were destroyed by tanks and the construction of emplacements. 6

1. Comment. Although the statements contradict previous assumptions, they are given credence, as elements of the 25th Tank Div from Oranienburg have been at Templin troop training grounds since mid-March. Furthermore, a train which went from Oranienburg to Templin on 15 April is also believed to have carried units of the division to the summer camp.

2. Comment. Prior to 16 April, units of the IV Arty Corps presumably conducted exercises in the vicinity of the posts or held short-term firing practices at Altengrabow. It cannot yet be determined whether these units continued practicing after 17 April or whether they already started transferring to the summer camp at Altengrabow. Generally, it can be expected, however, that the summer camps will be occupied at the beginning of May.

3. Comment. It is believed that artillery units of the 10th Gds Tank Div transferred to Krampnitz and Jueterbog on 20 and 24 April. According to other information, artillery units of the division apparently engaged in firing practice in the Jueterbog area on 19 April.

4. Comment. Probably, two shipments of equipment of the 36th Pon Bridge Regt of the GOFG which preceded the troops to the engineer training area southeast of Rossau.

5. Comment. The Hq Third Shock Army and the majority of the units of the 19th Gds Mech Div are carried at their posts up to late April.

6. Comment. From early March up to early April, five divisions conducted exercises in this area.

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